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Congresswoman Matsui Statement on the President's State of the Union Address

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-06) released the following statement in response to President Obama's State of the Union address:

"In his Inaugural address on January 21st, President Obama spoke about his vision for our country and the path that will lead us there. This evening, in his State of the Union address, he built on that speech, outlining a comprehensive plan that will strengthen our economy, create jobs, protect middle class families, and invest in our country.

"I share the President's commitment to growing the economy from the middle out by investing in manufacturing, infrastructure, clean energy and education. These are the cornerstones of his blueprint for economic growth, and by making these investments we can create good paying jobs and make our economy stronger today, and our nation's future brighter.

"In Sacramento investing in infrastructure means focusing on flood protection, which is essential to the safety and economic vitality of our region. In his address this evening the President called for a 'Fix it First' program to focus on our nation's most urgent infrastructure repairs. Sacramento's flood protection priorities should be included in this program to ensure they receive the federal attention and funding they deserve, including Congressional authorization of the Natomas Levee Improvement Project. Lasting flood protection for the region will preserve public safety for generations to come.

"Like the President, I believe that investing in our manufacturing and clean energy sectors will help create good jobs, strengthen our economy, and address both our national security and

environmental needs. I support many of the proposals outlined by the President this evening. I have also introduced legislation, the Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Act, that would not only help restore our manufacturing base, but also help grow our clean energy sector by assisting small and medium-sized clean technology businesses in finding new markets at home and abroad, thus growing their business and creating additional jobs.

“During his address the President spoke of the importance of acting on policies where there is common ground for policy makers. This is what the American people expect, and it’s what they deserve. In Washington, and across the country, there is significant agreement amongst policy makers on the importance of ensuring we do everything we can to prepare our students for the future. I support the President’s call to invest in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. We must give our students and our workers the foundation to compete in a global marketplace and I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to make this a reality.

“Our country has made great progress in the last several years, creating jobs, strengthening the economy and making necessary investments for the future. But there is much more work to be done. The President this evening laid out a bold and inspiring agenda that will help our nation continue on the road to prosperity, and ensure we are able to compete in the global market for years to come. It is now imperative that policy makers on both sides of the aisle put aside partisan gamesmanship and focus on implementing these policies. By working together in a bipartisan fashion I know we can deliver for America.”

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